

# The Conquest of the Pole

By Dr. FREDERICK A. COOK

Copyright, 1909, by the New York Herald Company, Registered in Canada in Accordance With Copyright Act. Copyright in Mexico Under Laws of the Republic of Mexico. All Rights Reserved

EARLY in January of 1908 the campaign opened. A few sleds were sent to the American shores to explore a route and to advance supplies.

Clouds and storms made the moonlight days dark, and therefore these advance expeditions were only partly successful.

On Feb. 19, 1908, the main expedition started for the pole. Eleven men, driving 103 dogs and moving 11 heavily loaded sleds, left the Greenland shore and pushed westward over the troublesome ice of Smith sound to Cape Sabine.

The gloom of the long winter night was but little relieved by a few hours of daylight, and the temperature was very low.

Eighty-three Degrees Below.

Passing through a valley between Ellesmere Land and Grinnell Land from the head of Flagler bay, in crossing to the Pacific slopes, the temperature fell to 83 degrees F. below zero.

In Rajford many musk oxen were secured, and, though the winter frost

Eighty-Three Degrees Below—Willing Savage Hands. Marching Over the Polar Seas

[FIFTH ARTICLE]

and efficient equipment much care was taken to eliminate every ounce of weight. The sleds were made of hickory, the lightest wood consistent with great endurance, but every needless fiber was gouged out. The iron shoes were ground thin, and in every way the weight of nearly everything was reduced even after leaving headquarters.

The little train, therefore, which followed me into the farther mystery was composed of two sleds, each carrying 600 pounds, drawn by 13 dogs, under the lash of an expert driver. The combined freight was as follows: Pemman, 805 pounds; musk ox tenderloin, 50 pounds; todnu, 25 pounds; tea, 2 pounds; coffee, 1 pound; sugar, 25 pounds; condensed milk, 40 pounds; milk biscuits, 60 pounds; pea soup, powdered and compressed, 10 pounds; surprises, 5 pounds; petroleum, 40 pounds; wood alcohol, 2 pounds; candles, 3 pounds; matches, 1 pound.

The Camp Equipment. The camp equipment included the



ESKIMO BELLES ON THE JOHN R. BRADLEY.

was at its lowest, there was little wind, and with an abundance of fresh meat and also fat for fuel the life in the snow house proved fairly comfortable. The ice in Eureka and Nansen sounds proved fairly smooth, and long marches were made. With an abundance of game—musk oxen, bears and hares—we found it quite unnecessary to use the supplies taken from Greenland. Caches of food and ammunition were left along Heiberg island for the return.

Willing Savage Hands.

Thus we managed to keep in game trails and in excellent fighting trim to the end of known lands. Camping in the chill of the howling cliffs of the northernmost coast (Svartevog), we looked out over the heavy ice of the polar seas through eyes which had been hardened to the worst of polar environments.

There was at hand an abundance of supplies, with willing savage hands and a superabundance of brute force in overtaken pelt, but for a greater certainty of action over the unknown regions beyond I resolved to reduce the force to the smallest numbers consistent with the execution of the problem in hand.

We had traveled nearly 400 miles in twenty-eight days. There remained a line of 520 miles of unknown territory to be overcome before our goal could be reached. For this final task we were provided with every conceivable device to ease this hard lot; but, in addition to a reduced party, I now definitely resolved to simplify the entire equipment. At Svartevog a big cache was made. In this cache fresh meat, todnu, pemman and much other food, together with all discarded articles of equipment, were left.

In the northward advance every factor of the dog train had been carefully watched and studied to provide a perfect working force for the final reach over the polar sea. Etukshuk and Ahwah, two young Eskimos, each twenty years old, had been chosen as best fitted to be my sole companions in the long run of destiny. Twenty-six dogs were picked, and upon two sleds were loaded all our needs for a stay of eighty days.

All For Progress.

To have increased this party would not have enabled us to carry supplies for a greater number of days. The sleds might have been loaded more heavily, but this would reduce the important progress of the first days.

With the character of ice which we had before us advance stations were impossible. A large expedition and a heavy equipment seemed imprudent. We must win or lose in a prolonged effort at high pressure, and therefore absolute control and ease of adaptability to a changing environment must be assured.

It is impossible to adequately control the complex human temperament of unknown men in the polar wilderness, but the two Eskimo boys could be trusted to follow to the limit of my own endeavors, and our sleds were burdened only with absolute necessities.

Cutting Down Weight.

Because of the importance of a light

following articles: One blow fire lamp (Geuch), 3 aluminum pails, 3 aluminum cups, 3 aluminum teaspoons, 1 tablespoon, 3 tin plates, 6 pocketknives, 2 butcher knives (10 inches), 1 saw knife (13 inches), 1 long knife (15 inches), 1 rifle (Sharpe), 1 rifle (Winchester), 22, 110 cartridges, 1 hatchet, 1 Alpine ax, extra line and lashings, 3 personal bags.

The sled equipment was 2 sleds weighing 52 pounds each, 12 foot folding canvas boat, 34 pounds; 1 silk tent, 2 canvas sled covers, 2 sleeping bags (goosehair skin), floor furs, extra wood for sled repairs, screws, nails and rivets.

The instruments were as follows: Three compasses, 1 sextant, 1 artificial horizon (glass), 1 pedometer, 3 pocket chronometers, 1 watch, charts, map-making material and instruments, 3 thermometers, 1 aneroid barometer, 1 camera and films, notebooks and pencils.

The personal bags contained four extra pairs of kamiks, with fur stockings, a woolen shirt, three pairs of sealskin mittens, two pairs of fur mittens, a piece of blanket, a sealskin coat (net-sha), a repair kit for mending clothing and dog harness, extra fox tails.

On the march we wore snow goggles, blue fox coats (kapitahs), birdskin shirts, woolen drawers, bearskin pants, kamiks and bearskin stockings. We fastened a band of fox tails under the knee and about the waist.

Helping the Advance.

On the morning of March 18 preparations were made to divide the party. The advance must be helped over the rough ice of the pack edge, and for this purpose Koolootwah and Inguito were selected. The other six Eskimos prepared to return. One sled was left with the cache to insure a good vehicle for our return in case the two sleds were badly broken en route.

A half gale was blowing into Nansen sound from the northwest, but this did not interfere with the starting of those home going Eskimos. With abundant game for the return they required little but ammunition to supply their wants.

When the word was given to start, the dogs were gathered and the sleds were spanned with a jump. Soon they disappeared in the rush of driving snow. The crack of the whips and the rebound of cheering voices were the last which we heard of the faithful savage supporters. They had followed not for pay, but for a real desire to be helpful, from the dark days of the ending of night to the bright nights of the coming double days, and their parting enforced a pang of loneliness.

Another Sleep Before the Start.

With a snow charged blast in our faces it was quite impossible for us to start, so we withdrew to the snow igloo, entered our bags and slept a few hours longer. At noon the horizon cleared. The wind veered to the south-west and came with an endurable force. The dogs had been doubly fed the night before. They were not to be fed again for two days. The 1,200 pounds of freight were packed on our sleds, and quickly we slipped around deep grooves in the great polycrystic

# Story to Commence Soon.

## The Lure of the Mask



A story of the most alluring character in fiction. Such a woman in real life often decides the destiny of a nation. To read of her is as interesting and exciting as it would be to meet her. You will find the story fascinating from beginning to end.

By Harold MacGrath

The snow had been swept from the ice by the force of the preceding storms, and the speed attained by the dogs through even rough ice was such that it was difficult to keep far enough ahead to get a good course.

The crevasses and pressure lines gave little trouble at first, but the hard irregularity of the bare ice offered a dangerous surface for the life of our sleds, passing through blue gorges among miniature mountains of sea ice. On a course slightly west of north we soon sank the bold headland which raises the northern point of Heiberg island.

Camp Is Pitched.

After a run of twenty-six miles we pitched camp on a floe berg of unusual height. There were many big hummocks about, to the lee of which were great banks of hardened snow. Away from land it is always more difficult to find snow suitable for cutting building blocks, but here was an abundance conveniently placed. In the course of an hour a comfortable palace of crystal was erected, and into it we crept out of the piercing wind. The first day's march over the circumpolar sea was closed with a good record.

The dogs curled up and went to sleep without a call, as if they knew there would be no food until the morning. My wild companions covered their faces with their convenient long hair and sank quietly into a comfortable slumber, but for me sleep was quite impossible. Letters must be written. The whole problem of our campaign must be again carefully studied and final plans must be made not only to reach our ultimate destination, but for the returning parties and for the security of the things at Annotok.

Impossible to Foretell Return.

It was difficult at this time to even guess at the probable line of our return to land. Much depended upon conditions encountered in the northward route. Though we had left caches of supplies, with the object of returning along Nansen sound into

Cannon Ford and over Arthur Land. I entertained grave doubts of our ability to return this way. If the ice drifted strongly to the east we might not be given the choice of working out our own return. In that event we would be carried perhaps helplessly to Greenland and must seek a return either along the east coast or the west coast.

This drift did not offer a dangerous hardship, for the musk oxen would keep us alive to the west, and to the east it seemed possible to reach Shannon island, where the Baldwin-Ziegler expedition had abandoned a large cache of supplies. It appeared not improbable also that a large land extension might offer a safe return much farther west.

Francke's Instructions.

Because of this uncertainty Francke was instructed to wait until June 5, 1908, and if we did not return he was told to place Koolootwah in charge and go home either by the whalers or by the Danish ships to the south.

No relief which he could offer would be up us, and to wait for an indefinite time alone would have inflicted a needless hardship. This and many other instructions were prepared for Koolootwah and Inguito to take back.

In the morning the frost in crystals had been swept from the air, but there remained a humid chill which pierced to the bones. The temperature was minus 56 F. A light air came from the west, and the sun burned in a freezing blue.

After a few hours' march the ice changed in character. The extensive thick fields gave place to moderate sized floes. The floes were separated by zones of troublesome crushed ice thrown into high pressure lines, which offered serious barriers, but with the ice ax and Eskimo ingenuity we managed to make fair progress.

The second run on the polar sea was with twenty-one miles to our credit. I had expected to send the supporting party back from here, but progress had not been as good as expected. We

could hardly spare the food to feed their dogs, so they volunteered to push along another day without dog food.

Return of the Helpers.

On the next day, with increasing difficulties in some troublesome ice, we camped after making only sixteen miles. Here a small snow house was built, and from here, after disposing of a pot of steaming musk ox joints and broth, followed by a double brew of tea, our last helpers returned.

With empty sleds and hungry dogs they hoped to reach land in one long day's travel. But this would make the fourth day without food for their dogs, and in case of storm or moving ice other days of famine might easily fall to their lot. They had, however, an abundance of dogs and might sacrifice a few for the benefit of the others, as we must often do.

DRAPER RE-ELECTED

Republicans Carry Massachusetts by Reduced Plurality.

Boston, Nov. 3. — The Republican state ticket was again successful at the polls, but it has been some years since the head of the ticket has been elected by so small a plurality.

Returns indicate that Governor Eben F. Draper's plurality over James H. Vahey, Democrat, is less than 9000, and Lieutenant Governor Frothingham only beat out Eugene H. Foss, his Democratic opponent, by about 8000. Last year Draper defeated Vahey by 60,000. Vahey made big gains because of Draper's alleged feeling toward organized labor; the straddle of the Republican convention on the income tax amendment; the failure of congress to revise the tariff downward, and the increased cost of living. These were points that Vahey dwelt upon in his campaign, and they brought him many votes from the laboring classes.

Draper came out of the town, the Republican stronghold of the state, with about 27,000 plurality, while Vahey carried Boston by approximately 18,500.



PROF. D. D. BRUCE, M. D.

Strange, Wonderful, but True are the awe stricken tests given by The Great Australian Medium.

PROF. D. D. BRUCE, M. D.

the only living Apostle of Science of the Mysteries.

\$5000 in Gold to any one in the World to compete with him. Possessing more power than any four mediums combined.

No card, trance or hand humbug.

Greatest Hindoo Medium in the World.

SO GREAT IS HIS POWER that he can tell you while in a Clairvoyant state, all you wish to know with out a word being spoken. Come, all ye unbelievers, scoffers and jeerers: bring all your skepticism with you—he will open your eyes to the private chamber mystery. Come all ye broken hearted wives, all with low spirits and let him lift the burden from your aching and jealous heart. He challenges the World to compete with him in causing a speedy marriage with the one you

love; uniting the separated and bring back the lost one. Traces lost or stolen goods. Unearths hidden treasures. Removes evil influences. Cures, Spells, Ill Luck, cures tricks and Conjurings, gives Luck and Success in all you undertake. Cures the Tobacco and Liquor Habits. Allows the Captive to be set Free.

He is the only one that will give a Written Guarantee to complete your business or refund your money. Are you sick? Do you know what the trouble is with you? Come and Consult Nature's Doctor.

Rheumatism, Insomnia, Hysteria and all Diseases cured. Points given on Horse Racing and all Games of Chance.

No matter what ails you, come and see this wonderful man. Reader have you noticed that some people have a hard time to get along, no matter how they toll, while others have success? Many wealthy men and women owe their success to this wonderful man.

He will tell you whom you will marry. Will you be happy? He will tell you who your friends and enemies are. Can you tell? Don't take a leap in the dark, but be advised by this wonderful man. Greatest Prophet in existence.

He always Succeeds when others fail. This is the chance of a life time. Don't let it pass you.

Office hours: 9 A. M. to 9:30 P. M. Sunday: 2:30 to 7:30 P. M.

N. B.—Our consultation Fee is 50 cents. Sittings, \$1.00. All letters containing \$1.00 will be answered in full.

MAIN OFFICE: 510 S. 8th Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

## MORE MONEY—RACE PROGRESS.

If colored people groom themselves daintily, destroy perspiration odors, remove grease shine from the face and use our new discoveries for improving the skin and dressing the hair, they will be better received in the business world, make more money and advance faster.

The Chemical Wonder Company of New York is the best business friend colored people have. It improves their bodies as Dr. Booker T. Washington improves their minds. That company manufactures nine Chemical Wonders, which will make colored people as attractive as individual peculiarities will permit. Colored men in New York who use these Wonders hold better positions in banks, clubs and business houses and women have better positions, marry better, get along better.

(1) Complexion Wonder Creme will light up any colored face (black or brown), every time it is used. To prove this on one trial, we send demonstration sample for 10 cents. Regular jar 50 cents postpaid.

(2) Magneto-Metallic Comb called Wonder Comb. Can be heated before using to help straighten and dress the hair. Costs 50 cents and will last a life time.

(3) Wonder Uncurl. When this pomade dressing is in the hair the kinks can be uncured and the hair becomes flexible. When heated into the scalp and through the hair with a Wonder Comb, any stiff, knotty hair will dress well. 50 cents postpaid.

(4) Wonder Hair Grow. Fertilizes the scalp and makes hair grow long, just as fertilizers in the soil make corn stalks grow. 50 cents postpaid.

(5) Odor Wonder Powder instantly destroys perspiration odor. People who neglect such chemical cleansing are obnoxious. 50 cents postpaid.

(6) Odor Wonder Liquid. This fine toilet water surrounds the body with delicate perfume. When used with Odor Wonder Powder the condition of the body becomes perfect. If you can spare 50 cents extra order this luxury. 50 cents postpaid.

(7) Wonder Foot Powder keeps the feet dainty. 50 cents postpaid.

(8) Wonder Wash. A shampoo to clean from dandruff and insure the health of the hair and scalp. 50 cents postpaid.

(9) Shell Pink Creme will give light brown girls beautiful pink cheeks without made up appearance. 50 cents postpaid.

We guarantee all these Wonders as represented. We give advice free about hair, skin and scalp. Will send book on Attractiveness free. We will prove true business friends of colored people.

We wish one agent for every locality and guarantee against loss. Only \$2 capital required.

Always write to M. B. BERGER & CO., 2 Rector Street, New York. We market all the Chemical Wonder Company preparations.

Everything Everything  
IN FURNITURE AND  
FURNITURE SPECIALTIES  
FLOOR COVERINGS  
SYDNOR & HUNDLEY, INC.  
Leaders.  
709 711 713 EAST BROAD STREET.

'Phone, 577. Richmond, Va.  
A. D. PRICE,  
Funeral Director, Embalmer and Liveryman.  
All orders promptly filled at short notice by telegraph or telephone. Halls rented for meetings and nice entertainments. Plenty of room with all necessary conveniences. Large picnic or band wagons for hire at reasonable rates and nothing but first-class, carriages, buggies, etc. Keep constantly on hand fine funeral supplies.  
No. 212 East Leigh Street.  
(Residence Next Door.)  
OPEN ALL DAY AND NIGHT.—Man on Duty All Night.

The People's Restaurant,  
750 North 3rd St., Richmond, Va.  
MEALS at All Hours—Hot or Cold. Board by Day, Week or Month. SOFT DRINKS.  
POLITE ATTENTION.....GIVE ME A CALL  
Mme. SYLVIA L. MITCHELL, Proprietress.